

## CHEAP COFFEE TO FOLLOW ENORMOUS OVERPRODUCTION OF PLANTATIONS

American Speculators Charged With Causing Hard Times in Brazil.

The world will undoubtedly enjoy cheap coffee in the next few years. That is made clearly evident by Consul General Seeger, the United States consular agent at Rio Janeiro, in his annual report now being prepared for the Public Printer. The world's coffee trade has reached a critical stage in its history.

The area of the Brazilian coffee plantations has been so much increased and is continually increasing to such an extent that for years to come a great overproduction must inevitably be the rule.

### Great Surplus on Hand.

According to the New York Coffee Exchange's figures the world's visible supply of coffee on October 1, 1902, was 13,005,000 bags of 132 pounds each, almost equal to a year's consumption. Not included, of course, were the amounts stored by retailers in Europe and the United States, in themselves a vast aggregate. Never before was there so great a surplus of coffee on hand.

The date selected corresponds nearest to that of Consul General Seeger's report referred to, namely, October 9. At that date "vast quantities of coffee were coming in regularly from the interior to the ports of Rio and Santos," the chief primary markets of Brazil. The local stocks then in sight were as follows: At Santos, 1,437,940 bags; at Rio, 715,157 bags.

The Brazilian coffee production for the harvest year 1901-1902, which closed June 30, 1902, the record-breaking crop, is officially reported by Consul General Seeger as follows:

Received port of Rio.....	Bags, 4,971,686
Received port of Santos.....	10,149,327
Received ports of Victoria, Bahia, Pernambuco, etc.....	878,387
Total.....	16,000,000

No Wonder, Indeed.

That is 2,112,000,000 pounds, or more than the whole world's annual consumption. No wonder coffee is low.

No authentic figures have been given out by the Brazilian consular agents re-

garding the present crop, 1902-1903, the marketing of which commenced on July 1 of last year. In his report of July 17, Consul General Seeger estimated it at 10,000,000 bags, or nearly 6,000,000 bags less than the yield of the previous season. In his last report he raises this estimate to 11,000,000 bags. Some American authorities have set it higher, while others have made it less. The consul general's figures may therefore stand. Though much short of the yield in 1902, it is still an enormous crop.

It is peculiar of the coffee tree that as soon as a new crop blooms, which in Brazil is some time in October, the experts can make very close estimates of the forthcoming yield. Already the new Brazilian crop (the harvest of 1903-1904) promises to be much larger than the present one, the marketing of which closes June 30, 1903.

### The Coming Crop.

Mr. Seeger estimates the coming crop at 13,000,000 bags, based on expert information. Various other statements regarding the crop lead to the conclusion that the yield will more probably exceed than fall below these figures. It is obvious that no figures obtainable are absolutely reliable, but it may be taken for granted that Consul General Seeger's estimates are carefully made in the public interests, and entirely free from bullish or bearish market influences. He expresses the opinion that a large decrease even from the present low prices of coffee is inevitable in the near future.

This is the data, fairly reliable, upon which is based the belief that coffee will continue to rule cheap for several years to come, and probably much cheaper than prevailing wholesale prices.

### Visible Supply Greater.

The visible supply of coffee in this country at the close of the calendar year is greater by 275,000 bags, or 36,300,000 pounds, than at this time last year, but just now with a decided tend-

ency to decrease. The importations of coffee from all quarters of the globe in the month of November were only 50,787,539 pounds as against 100,841,711 pounds in November, 1901. This falling off by more than one-half has steadied prices at the ports of entry for the time.

In view of these statistics of production and present supply the unprejudiced observer will easily understand that the present unprecedented low price of coffee at primary points has resulted only from natural causes. Nevertheless, it is gathered from Consul General Seeger's reports that the great mass of Brazilian people and most of their newspapers hold the American coffee exporter and speculator responsible for the depreciation in coffee prices and consequent hard times in Brazil, and are crying for reprisals.

### How Prices Are Sustained.

The fact is, however, as Mr. Seeger thinks, that the returns derived by producers from their coffee crop—low as they are in comparison with those secured some years ago when the Brazilian planters could count with measurably certain on an annual profit of 50 per cent—are probably still 20 to 25 per cent greater than they would be if prices were not sustained through artificial means by a combination of influential speculators in the United States.

He says that whatever view the American consumer may take of the situation, the Brazilian coffee planter and dealer, instead of vindictively blaming his northern customers for the present hard times caused by the coffee collapse, ought to be thankful to American speculators, who artificially hold up the price of coffee at the expense of consumers. Moreover, he should be even more thankful to those Americans who, through the employment of large capital and excellent methods of preparing coffee for the market, and then distributing it, have so largely in late years increased the American demand for this Brazilian product.

## SECRET OF SARATOGA OIL GUSHER REVEALED

Texas State Official Reports on Field.

AUSTIN, Tex., Jan. 3.—The first definite and authoritative information in regard to the new oil field at Saratoga, Tex., was obtained today from John T. Smith, of the State comptroller's department, who has just returned from a visit to that locality, where he made a careful investigation of the situation.

He says there is a gusher in the new field which, by actual test, has a capacity of 25,000 barrels a day. There are two other flowing oil wells in the field, but their capacity is not so great as the gusher.

It has been known for some time that oil in paying quantities had been struck at Saratoga. The fact that one of the wells is a genuine gusher was a secret, except to a few interested parties, according to the statement of Mr. Smith. "I am convinced that the Saratoga oil field is destined to become one of the greatest oil producing regions in the world," Mr. Smith continued. "It is situated fourteen miles distant from the nearest railroad point, and this fact accounts for the lack of excitement and knowledge concerning the new discovery. The new field is about nine miles distant from Sour Lake, where oil in paying quantities has been struck, and I am convinced that the old strata connect these two fields."

"I was informed by one of the parties to the transaction in my visit to Saratoga that the Southern Pacific Company had just purchased 800 acres of land situated in the heart of the new field, and including the three producing oil wells. The price paid for the 800 acres and three wells was \$240,000. It is reported that an oil pipe line will be built from Saratoga to a point on the railroad. The Houston Oil Company, which has a capital stock of \$15,000,000, also has extensive holdings in the new field."

### SOUTHERN RAILWAY ANSWERS CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION

The Southern Railway has filed an answer with the Interstate Commerce Commission denying the charges of discrimination made in the complaint of R. W. Austin, of Knoxville, Tenn., the organizer of the "Live and Let Live Company," founded to furnish coal cheaply to the poor. He accused the company of discriminating against the organization in furnishing carrying facilities.

The answer to the allegations denies the jurisdiction of the Commission in the case, on the ground that the charge concerns commerce in the boundaries of Tennessee. It is also denied that discrimination was used to any localities or persons, and further says that the demands of the complainant, which is not a coal shipper, could not have been met without the use of unjust discrimination.

## WEST VIRGINIA MAN DEFENDS STATE PRISON

Representative Dovener Says Reports Are Exaggerated.

Representative Blackburn B. Dovener, of West Virginia, representing the district in which the West Virginia State prison is located, arrived in the city last night with his wife and took apartments at the Riggs House. When asked about the condition of the prison in which the District prisoners are confined, said:

"I live within twelve miles of the institution, and the first I knew of the prevalence of consumption among the prisoners was what I saw in our State papers. I can see through the whole scheme. Some other State wants the contract for keeping them, and because our prison was built a number of years ago, they insist that consumption is rampant. I suppose some prisoner, who contracted the disease before he entered the place, died, and now they want the contract broken to give another State an opportunity to get them."

"They talk about the Ohio penitentiary. I have visited it and know whereof I speak when I say it is in worse condition than ours. I admit the place is overcrowded, but whoever heard of that causing consumption? The officials can investigate and I am sure they will come back convinced the prison is better than the average. Perhaps some of the prisoners are using the game to be transferred to some other institution. Our warden is an efficient officer, and I know if such conditions existed as it is claimed he

would have complained of it to the board of directors."

Major Strong, general agent of the Department of Justice, will send an inspector to the prison the first of next week. As stated in The Times, he will not reveal what that official is, neither will he tell when the inspector will leave. The matter has been brought so forcibly to the attention of the department that the Attorney General deems it advisable to thoroughly investigate the complaint.

## PHIL SHERIDAN POST ELECTS ITS OFFICERS

David Gillen is Post Commander—G. H. Thomas Woman's Relief Corps Installs.

The regular meeting of Phil Sheridan Post, No. 14, Grand Army of the Republic, resulted in the election of the following officers:

Post commander, David Gillen; senior vice, Thomas H. Jenks; junior vice, E. C. Daugherty; adjutant, H. F. J. Drake; quartermaster, Henry C. Traphagen; surgeon, W. Ludgate; chaplain, Theodore F. Brown; officer of the day, S. G. Mawson; outside guard, J. C. Morgan.

George H. Thomas Woman's Relief Corps installed the following officers at its regular meeting last week: President, Mrs. Clara Magee; senior vice, Mrs. Nora Atkinson; junior vice, Mrs. Alice King; treasurer, Mrs. Gertrude Morgan; secretary, Mrs. Alice Burgess; chaplain, Mrs. Cooley; conductor, Mrs. Agnes Keeler; guard, Mrs. Luchie; color bearers, Mrs. Thatcher, Mrs. McClure, Mrs. Hanmer, and Mrs. Hill. The installation officer was Mrs. Agnes Reebe, of this corps.

### PENSION GRANTED.

A pension has been granted under date of December 16, 1902—to widows, minors, and dependent relatives—to Eliza Williams, of this city, at the rate of \$8 per month.

## MR. LAMAR HONORED BY A. T. O. FRATERNITY

Washington Man Elected to Highest Office in Its Gift.

A number of Washingtonians was elected to offices by the eighteenth biennial council of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity in Chicago yesterday. All but two of the forty-five chapters were represented. The next congress will be held in New York city.

The officers chosen at the close of the congress were: Worthy grand chief, George H. Lamar, Washington; worthy grand chaplain, Rev. James B. Werner, Stamford, Conn.; worthy grand keeper of exchequer, G. D. Ellsworth, Washington; worthy grand keeper of annals, Dr. Larkin W. Glazebrook, Washington; worthy grand scribe, George W. Mitchell, Dallas, Texas.

Members of the high council: Otis A. Glazebrook, D. D., Elizabeth, N. J.; N. Wiley Thomas, Philadelphia; Louis E. Ehle, Chicago; N. F. Morrill, Burlington, Vt.; Dr. E. P. Lyon, Chicago, Robt. W. Bingham, of Louisville, Ky., was chosen orator of the fraternity.

### WASHINGTON EAGLES

#### ARRANGE FOR BANQUET

The announcement that Washington Aerie, No. 125, Fraternal Order of Eagles will give their second annual benefit on January 12, at Lafayette Square Opera House, has created deep interest among the friends of this progressive order. Judging from the number of inquiries the officers have received about boxes and the reservation of seats the attendance at the coming occasion will be a record-breaker.

The attraction on January 12 will be Ward and Vokes in the second edition of "The Head Waiters," this season more than usually clever and the entertainment it will offer will be of a high class and well worth patronizing.

## GUITEAU'S ASSAILANT VISITS THE CAPITAL

Sergeant Mason Renews Old Associations.

### STORY OF THE SHOOTING

Stepped From File of Soldiers and Fired at Assassin's Window. Pardoned by Arthur.

Sergeant John A. Mason, who became world-famous for firing at Guiteau, President Garfield's assassin, is visiting friends in this city. It is the first time in many years Mason has seen Washington and his trip to the Capital city recalls the exciting times of his trial by court-martial on a charge of shooting with intent to kill. His counsel, Attorney J. G. Bigelow, is still living. Sergeant Mason is now fifty-nine years old. He is a tall man, of seemingly splendid health. This is deceptive, however, as he suffers continually from two wounds received in the civil war. For his offense of shooting at Guiteau with intent to kill, Mason was sentenced to serve a twenty-year term in the penitentiary at Auburn, N. Y. Fortunately for him President Arthur, who succeeded President Garfield, pardoned him and he has spent much of the time since with his family in Virginia.

### Watched Guard Mount.

At the time of the shooting Mason was a member of the Fourth United States Artillery, detailed to guard the city prison where Guiteau was confined. One company was on duty for a period of twenty-four hours, and was relieved each evening at six o'clock. To the President's assassin this was an interesting ceremony and it was his custom to watch guard mount. He would stand at the window of his cell and look out upon the prison windows at the parade ground.

Mason knew of the prisoner's habit and the evening of the shooting, held a position in line near the window usually occupied by Guiteau. Just as the parade was dismissed, Mason stepped out of line and fired at the prison window. The bullet passed between the iron bars, went through Guiteau's cell window and, striking the wall, was deflected against the opposite wall and fell to the floor.

At the time, the prisoner was lying on a cot in his cell, but the whistling of the bullet, together with the sounds made by its striking the iron walls, gave him a fright, and he called for help. Sergeant Mason was arrested and placed in the guardhouse at Washington Barracks. General Hancock in command of the Department of the East, with headquarters at Governor's Island, N. Y., convened a court-martial at once and the trial of Mason was begun. Attorney Bigelow was engaged as the accused man's counsel and a long, bitter trial was under way.

### Acknowledged Guilt.

Mason's counsel attempted to prove that the accused man knew nothing of Guiteau's habits and that his offense was nothing more than disorderly conduct and his charge should be dropped. Sergeant Mason arose in court and denied his attorney's statement, saying he knew Guiteau was accustomed to stand there and that he fired at him. A large number of witnesses were called and the decision of the board convened was that Mason was guilty and it sentenced him to serve a twenty-year term. General Hancock approved the finding and Mason was removed to prison.

The sympathy of the people was with

him, however, and his pardon was granted by President Arthur. Yesterday, he arrived in town and spent several hours with his attorney, Mr. Bigelow, renewing the memories of the trial and reciting many incidents of that time. He is a guest at the temporary Soldiers' Home, 305 Missouri Avenue, but expects to leave in a few days for the Soldiers' Home, at Marion, Ind., or the one at Danville, Ill. His family still live on the farm in Virginia, but the sergeant, for reasons of his own, prefers to wait away his remaining days with old comrades at one of the homes provided for both veterans of the civil war and pensioners of the regular army. His children are all grown and their mother lives with them.

### A Long-Lost Brother.

George W. Mason, a member of the police force of this city, who died last Wednesday, was generally known as a brother of the sergeant. The latter, however, knew nothing of this until last night. He had a brother of that name whose description corresponds with that of the dead policeman. The sergeant will spend today investigating the matter. When last he heard of the brother he was living in Colorado. He is inclined to think that this was his brother.

When Attorney Bigelow was seen last night by a Times representative, he said: "Yes, I saw Mason today for the first time in years. We enjoyed a part of the day talking over the shooting of President Garfield, and his attack on Guiteau. He is enjoying his visit to Washington very much. Yes, I remember well the trial," he added, when asked about that event.

### Criticised the Court.

"A great many newspaper men were present, and column after column was written about the case. Mason did himself harm by telling the court he knew of Guiteau's habit of standing at the window. If it had not been for that he would have been liberated."

"I remember that one newspaper man who criticised the court for keeping Mason confined in the guardhouse, gained the displeasure of the court, which would have put him in the same place but for the interference of myself and others. General Ayres, who was in charge of the forces here, became very indignant over the story published, and had a detail of men drawn up waiting for the arrival of the reporter. We interceded and the young man escaped with a few words of reproof."

### SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

A business meeting and installation of officers of R. J. Harden Command, Spanish War Veterans, was held at the S. W. V. Hall, 612 E Street northwest, Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

Officers for the ensuing year are: Captain, A. M. Coykendall; first lieutenant, Thomas Fitzgerald; second lieutenant, E. M. Phelps; chaplain, E. R. Fontaine; adjutant, A. M. Forrester; quartermaster, J. J. Knibbs.

There will be a public installation of officers of Lillian Capron Auxiliary, R. J. Harden Command, tomorrow evening, when the command will be presented with a stand of colors.

### MR. MOTT TO SPEAK.

John R. Mott, president of the World's Christian Student Federation, an organization which includes nearly every college and university of the world, will speak this afternoon at the big meeting for men at Lafayette Opera House. A dinner was given in his honor at the Y. M. C. A. last evening. The doors will open at the theater at 3:30 o'clock, the song service begins at 3:45.

## EVIDENCE OF STANDARD OIL COMPANY'S CONTROL IN TEXAS

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 3.—As a further evidence of the fact that the Standard Oil Company has acquired control of the Southern oil fields, notice has been received by the Lone Star and Crescent Oil companies that it would not deliver fuel in New Orleans after January 1.

### RECEIVER ASKED.

Giovanni Morrill yesterday filed suit in the Supreme Court of the District against Pietro Lanzilli for the purpose of having the partnership existing between them dissolved and also for the appointment of a receiver for the stock in trade.

## Saks and Company, Leaders Since 1867.

## Three Important Tailoring Specials.

It has long been a custom of ours to make the season's sacrifice in "Made-to-order" directly after the 1st of January. As to date we're following the precedent of custom in inaugurating this sale, or rather this trio of sales, tomorrow morning.

But we shall upset all precedent in the attractiveness with which we shall surround the offerings on this occasion. We shall turn over for selection a higher class of fabrics than ever before; in a wider assortment of patterns; including plain weaves as well as the exclusive novelties—and we shall do just as we always do when we put shears and needle into cloth—DO OUR BEST.

There's nothing better than the Saks best.

We shall turn out Suits and Trousers that we shall be proud to have said were made by us.

The Suits we shall place in two assortments. The Trousers will all be put together.

These sales serve two purposes. They use up the surplus stock and they keep the force employed. That's worth while, you know, even though it is done without pecuniary profit—even though it costs us a little something, as it must in all three of these instances.

The Suits that have been in the \$20 and \$25 collections will be offered for making up to your measure at..... **\$14.75**

The Suits that have been in the \$30 and \$35 collections will be offered for making up to your measure at..... **\$22.50**

The Trousers, some seventy-five or a hundred different patterns, all good ones, that have been in the \$6 and \$8.50 collections, will be made up for..... **\$4.75**

The opportunity becomes available tomorrow morning, and as there are practically no duplicate patterns, first choice has its advantages—as you can appreciate.

## SAKS AND COMPANY,

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Business Hours:  
9.30 A M  
to 5.30 P M  
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Each purchase  
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accept these statements if we had ever exaggerated in our 27 years career, but we mean every word when tomorrow morning at 8.30 you will find here the

## GREATEST GENUINE BARGAINS

ever offered the Washington public. Everything guaranteed. Money back if you wish.

## STANDARD DOMESTIC BARGAINS.

In 27 years only STANDARD DOMESTICS were allowed to enter or leave our establishment. Every piece is guaranteed PERFECT and FAST colors.

Andrescoggin yard wide  
best 3c bleached cotton  
cut from the piece, per yard  
for..... **67c**

Bleached Cambric, very fine, full  
yard wide, 10c is the  
price everywhere, here Mon-  
day for..... **67c**

Towel Crash for roller towels,  
bleached or unbleached,  
heavy twilled, extra absorb-  
ent, 5c value for..... **37c**

Outing Flannels, fast colors, both  
light and dark, beautiful  
styles, worth 5c to 7c per  
yard, Monday..... **37c**

Outing Flannels, a better grade,  
beautiful fast colored ef-  
fects, a 10c grade, Monday  
for..... **57c**

Cotton French Flannel, both plain  
colors or fancy effects, our  
entire stock of 12 1/2c and 15c  
grades, choice..... **9 1/2c**

Simpson's Fast Black Calico in  
the new styles; look like per-  
cale, and wear better; 5c  
grade..... **4 1/2c**

Merrimac Blue Calico prints are  
known as the best for wear  
and style; a 6c calico here **4 1/2c**  
Monday.....

Amoskeag and Lancaster Gingham,  
guaranteed fast colors; the  
best apron gingham; 8c grade  
for..... **6c**

## DRESS GOODS REDUCED.

Plaid Dress Goods, double width,  
beautiful styles; see display  
in Seventh Street windows;  
12 1/2c quality, for..... **67c**

Plaid Dress Goods, such as you  
expect to pay 25c or 30c  
per yard for; beautiful  
styles, here Monday..... **12 1/2c**

Silk and Wool Plaid Dress Goods;  
imported effects in the best new  
color combinations; 50c and  
75c per yard is the regular  
price, Monday for..... **39c**

Woolen Dress Goods, about 250  
pieces in all; colors suitable for  
fall or winter wear; 36  
to 45 inches wide; worth up  
to 39c, for..... **16c**

All Wool Zibeline, also the stylish  
fancy suitings in the entire  
line of full colors; 50c and  
75c value, for..... **25c**

Golf Cloth, also Venetian Cloth,  
in all colors; correct for suits,  
Norfolk Jackets, automobiles,  
etc.; 52 to 58 inches wide,  
worth \$1.00 and \$1.50 per  
yard, Monday for..... **79c**

Black Diagonal, guaranteed color,  
35 inches wide, a great 25c  
value, special for Mon-  
day..... **16c**

Black Henrietta, all-wool, 44 in-  
ches wide, worth 75c; also beautiful  
black whip cord granita  
cloth, and high class silk and  
wool novelties, strictly per-  
fect cloth; \$1.00 values, for..... **44c**

All-wool Black Golf Cloth, 56 in-  
ches wide; suitable for un-  
lined suits and skirts; a  
\$1.50 value, for..... **\$1.00**

EVERY WOOLEN WAIST . **\$1.59**  
Worth Up to \$4.00 for

We have received from Charles Simons & Co., of New York, 272 Waits, worth up to \$4.00. The colors are cream, blue, pink, black, gray, navy, and red, hardly two are alike; some are tailor-made, others are very fancy; the sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42, on second floor bargain tables; not over two to one purchaser, for \$1.59.

EVERY SILK WAIST . **\$1.95**  
Worth Up to \$5.00

As a companion sale to the wonderful woolen waist bargains, we offer choice of our Silk Waists, black, colors both dark and evening shades; all sizes, in the newest effects, on second floor bargain tables; not over two for one purchaser, for \$1.95.

### UNDERWEAR.

Finest wool Vests and Pants for men, women, and children, including our entire stock of red flannels, gray wool, and perfect fitting ribbed wool Vests and Pants for ladies; \$1.00 and \$1.25 grades, Monday..... **69c**

### GOSSETS.

It has always been our aim to offer the Washington public a GUARANTEED Corset at a very low price. Therefore, Monday we offer guaranteed Corsets in 49c all styles and colors at..... **49c**

### LININGS.

Fast Black Percale; we picked up 15 pieces moire finish double-fold fine black Percale, which we usually retail at 12 1/2c per yard, Monday for..... **67c**

Mercerized Silk, the "King Edward" brand; looks like silk, and wears better; fast black and all colors here for..... **21c**

Dressmakers' Cambric in the kid finish is best for lining; also beautiful for linings; soft and non-crushable; 60c grade; **48c** black and colors, for.....

### SILKS.

Yard-wide black Taffeta is guaranteed to wear; in the \$1.00 grade, Monday..... **79c**

Yard-wide Peau de Soie, yard-wide Moire Velour, and yard-wide heavy Taffeta; guaranteed \$1.50 grade, **\$1.19** for.....

Liberty Satins suitable for evening waists, dresses, etc.; also beautiful for linings; soft and non-crushable; 60c grade; **48c** black and colors, for.....

Warm Black Mitts, 10c quality for Ladies, 3 1-2c pair.

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7th Street.

**SILK HOUSE**

Corner  
7th and Eye

Six Spoils  
O. N. T. Spoil  
Cotton for  
25c.